



EVIDENCE PRESENTATION TECHNOLOGY

THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS is proud to offer evidence presentation equipment in the courtrooms of Chief Judge McDade and Judge Mihm in Peoria, Judge McCuskey in Urbana, and Judge Scott in Springfield.

A **Document Camera** enables counsel to present evidence via video monitors and a projection screen. Evidence can be in any medium (e.g. documents, pictures, negatives, x-rays, and 3-D objects).

Video Monitors are located at the bench, clerk's station, witness box, lectern, and attorney tables. The judge's monitor, the witness monitor and the lectern monitor are equipped with touchscreen technology. These touchscreen video monitors enable the judge, witness and counsel to draw and point with their fingers on the monitors to annotate any evidence or document that is displayed through the system. The image of the document or other exhibit can be marked with no changes to the original.

A **Video Cassette Recorder (VCR)** allows playback of evidence through the video monitors. The VCR contains a search feature that allows the operator to slowly advance an image. Counsel or a witness may use a touchscreen monitor to annotate a frame of the tape.

A **Color Video Printer** is available for counsel to print an image of a piece of evidence as it has been displayed through the system. Annotations are printed on the image as well. The printer enables counsel to preserve any document or piece of evidence for the record.

Computer Inputs are available if counsel chooses to use a computer to present evidence or make slide presentations. ***Note: a 26-point font is highly recommended, as smaller fonts are extremely difficult to read.*** Computer inputs are available at each counsel table and at the lectern. Each computer input has an **audio input** if counsel wants to use a computer with a sound card to present a recording as evidence through the sound system.

The Court strongly recommends that counsel test their systems and evidence in the courtroom before use in open court. Demonstrations and testing times are available by contacting the Clerk's Office to make an appointment with the appropriate courtroom deputy. ***Note: this is especially recommended if counsel plans to use a laptop to present sound, or the VCR to present a surveillance videotape. Past experiences with sound and video have proven that different recording processes produce different results on the Court's system. Adjustments might need to be made to accommodate certain media.***

The Clerk's Office has a scanner station PC available for use by the public. This computer workstation includes Microsoft Word, Corel WordPerfect, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Adobe Acrobat, and Textbridge. Textbridge is a program that scans a hard copy of a document, and then sends it to Word or WordPerfect for editing. The workstation also includes a Zip drive and CD writer. The Clerk's office does not provide Zip disks or CD-ROMs. Please note that CD-ROMs must be blank CD-Rs, specifically made for burning a CD. Regular CDs cannot be used to save information.